

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 10 and 12 are amended. Support for the amendments to claims 1, 3, 10 and 12 can be found at least in Figs. 3A-3C and the corresponding disclosure in the specification. No new matter is added.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiners Park and Bali in the September 8 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Mukoyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,831,659) in view of Botchy (*C Magazine*; "Speed-up Techniques and Thinking Routine for 3D Games Found Source Code of a 3D Game 'Doom'"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As argued during the personal interview, Mukoyama and Botchy, alone or in a permissible combination, do not teach or render obvious every claimed feature of independent claims 1 and 10. Mukoyama and Botchy do not teach or render obvious "each of the part objects having a three-dimensional projecting portion projecting from a display surface on which an image is drawn," as recited in independent claims 1 and 10 (emphasis added).

The Office Action asserts that the image formed on the flat display element P of Mukoyama corresponds to the claimed "projecting portion" because the flat display element P of Mukoyama includes virtual projection shapes (see Office Action, page 12). The Office Action further notes that the term "projecting portion" can be interpreted as a flat surface that includes a pictorial, two-dimensional representation of a three-dimensional shape, even though the shape of the display element P is flat (see Office Action, page 12). However, Mukoyama does not teach a three-dimensional projecting portion. Rather, Mukoyama only discloses a two-dimensional representation of the three-dimensional image (see Fig. 14 of

Mukoyama). Therefore, Mukoyama does not teach or render obvious the three-dimensional projecting portion of independent claims 1 and 10.

Further, Botchy does not remedy the above-described deficiencies of Mukoyama.

Therefore, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 10 are patentable over the combination of Mukoyama and Botchy. Claims 4, 6, 8, 13, 15 and 17, which variously depend from independent claims 1 and 10, are also patentable for at least their dependency on independent claims 1 and 10, as well as for the additional features they recite. Applicants thus respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Mukoyama in view of Botchy and in further view of Nakagawa (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0135603). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Mukoyama, Botchy and Nakagawa, alone or in a permissible combination, do not teach or render obvious every claimed feature of independent claims 3 and 12. Mukoyama, Botchy and Nakagawa do not teach or render obvious "the part objects being three-dimensional objects projecting from a display surface," as recited in independent claims 3 and 12.

The Office Action asserts that the part objects of independent claims 3 and 12 are disclosed at Fig. 14 of Mukoyama (see Office Action, page 7). However, as discussed above, Fig. 14 of Mukoyama merely discloses two-dimensional display elements P with no three-dimensional object projecting therefrom. Therefore, Mukoyama does not teach or render obvious the part objects of independent claims 3 and 12.

Botchy and Nakagawa do not remedy the above-described deficiencies of Mukoyama.

Therefore, for at least these reasons, independent claims 3 and 12 are patentable over the above-applied references. Claims 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16 and 18, which variously depend from claims 1, 3, 10 and 12, are also patentable over the applied references for at least

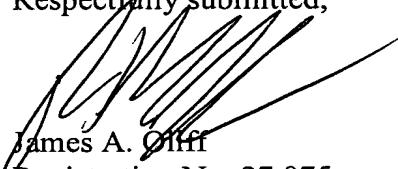
their dependency on the independent claims, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Applicants thus respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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